

# Memo

TO: Docketing Division

From: Jill Henry, Rail Specialist, Rail Division

Cc: PUCO Legal Department

Date: 4/2/2019

Re: PUCO Case No. 18-292-RR-FED- In the Matter of a Request for Upgrades to the Active Warning Devices at Eight CSX Transportation, Inc. Crossings in Marion County, Ohio.

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On October 18, 2016 and January 19, 2017, the Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) authorized funding for CSX Transportation (CSX) to modernize warning devices at eight crossings in the City of Marion. These projects are part of the Galion-Union City Corridor Project. The crossings were surveyed, on August 28 & 29, 2013, and were found to warrant the upgrades.

On April 4, 2018, the Commission issued a Finding and Order approving the projects and requiring project completion by April 4, 2019.

On March 25, 2019, CSX filed a 6 month extension request for the eight crossings in the City of Marion. In the request, CSX indicates that, in November 2018, ORDC and CSX determined that a project redesign was necessary for this project. This was due to the narrow right of way that CSX has through the City of Marion and CSX trying to meet current regulations in the placement of the new devices. As part of the redesign, the City of Marion will need to allow a portion of Huber Street to be narrowed. Huber Street runs parallel to the tracks and is partially located on CSX property in some areas along the tracks.

Staff consulted with ORDC about the status of the CSX project and ORDC confirmed that the re-design cannot move forward without the City of Marion signing off. CSX is unable to confirm how long it will take for the City of Marion to complete their review and give CSX the authority to move forward with the project.

Staff therefore recommends that the Commission put the project in abeyance, encourage the City of Marion to move forward with their review and acceptance of the re-design, and require CSX to begin their portion of the work within 60 days of design completion for this project.



Amanda J. DeCesare  
Project Manager – Public Projects  
CSX Transportation, Inc.  
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March 25, 2019

Mr. Greg Gronbach, ORDC  
Ms. Jill Henry, PUCO  
Ms. Cathy Stout, ORDC

RE: Case # 18-0292-RR-FED REQUEST FOR 6-MONTH EXTENSION

Crossing Location: Marion, Marion County, OH

Crossing Name:

Prospect St., 262080T, QI-100.85, PID 103528	SR4 / Main St., 262079Y, QI-100.78, PID 96929
N. State Street, 262076D, QI-100.70, PID 103531	Oak Street, 262083N, QI-100.92, PID 96917
Prospect Street, 518419V, QI-100.85, PID 103529	Oak Street, 518417G, QI-100.94, PID 96918
SR 4 / Main Street, 518421W, QI-100.77, PID 96928	N. State St., 518422D, QI-100.70, PID 103532

REQUEST FOR 6 MONTH EXTENSION - Installation of grade crossing warning devices for 8 crossings – ORDERED completion date of April 4, 2019

A 6-month extension is being requested due to the current redesign of the subject crossings. In November 2018, CSX and ORDC reviewed CSX's design for the crossing via conference call and determined that a redesign was needed. This redesign was completed in January 2019 and it impacts the roadway width of Huber Street. The warning devices must be placed within Huber Street travel lanes to meet MUTCD and AREMA standards for offset distances. It was determined that the City of Marion will need to give permission to narrow Huber Street. CSX Transportation, Inc. and ORDC have made multiple attempts (February 5 and March 6, 2019 (see attached email) to reach out to the City for their input, but no response received until March 22, 2019. On March 22, 2019 the City responded and requested a set of plans for review, which have been sent. Upon completion of the redesign the corridor project will be placed on the construction schedule and CSX Transportation, Inc. will be able to complete the corridor project by the October 4, 2019 requested extension date.

Crossings in Redesign:

Prospect Street, 262080T, QI-100.85, PID 103528, A46310  
SR4 / Main Street, 262079Y, QI-100.78, PID 96929, A46297  
N. State Street, 262076D, QI-100.70, PID 103531, A46302  
Oak Street, 262083N, QI-100.92, PID 96917, A45549

CSX formally requests approval of a 6-Month extension, making the new deadline date October 4, 2019.

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**From:** Jim Bischoff  
**To:** DeCesare, Amanda; Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov  
**Cc:** Catherine.Stout@dot.ohio.gov; Matt.Dietrich@dot.ohio.gov; Henning, Nicole (External)  
**Subject:** RE: Huber Street width, Marion, Ohio  
**Date:** Friday, March 22, 2019 8:35:45 AM  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg  
image002.png

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Thanks Amanda, I will take a look at it and get back to you as soon as possible.

Thanks

Jim

James F. Bischoff, PE  
Director of Public Works



[www.marionohio.us/engineering](http://www.marionohio.us/engineering)  
233 W. Center St. Marion OH 43302  
P - 740.387.2240  
F - 740.383.5712

**From:** DeCesare, Amanda <Amanda\_DeCesare@csx.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 22, 2019 8:31 AM  
**To:** Jim Bischoff <jbischoff@marionohio.org>; Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov  
**Cc:** Catherine.Stout@dot.ohio.gov; Matt.Dietrich@dot.ohio.gov; Henning, Nicole (External) <Nicole\_Henning@csx.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Huber Street width, Marion, Ohio

Jim,

The drawings are attached. Thank you.

**Amanda J. DeCesare**

Project Manager – Public Projects

CSX Transportation

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**From:** Jim Bischoff <[jbischoff@marionohio.org](mailto:jbischoff@marionohio.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 22, 2019 8:28 AM  
**To:** [Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov)  
**Cc:** [Catherine.Stout@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Catherine.Stout@dot.ohio.gov); DeCesare, Amanda <[Amanda\\_DeCesare@csx.com](mailto:Amanda_DeCesare@csx.com)>;  
[Matt.Dietrich@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Matt.Dietrich@dot.ohio.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: Huber Street width, Marion, Ohio

Greg,

Can you please send me the drawings? Jay Shoup was the former Service Director that retired at the end of 2015.

Thanks

Jim

James F., Bischoff, PE  
Director of Public Works



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**From:** [Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov) <[Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2019 12:45 PM  
**To:** Jim Bischoff <[jbischoff@marionohio.org](mailto:jbischoff@marionohio.org)>  
**Cc:** [Catherine.Stout@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Catherine.Stout@dot.ohio.gov); [amanda\\_decesare@csx.com](mailto:amanda_decesare@csx.com)  
**Subject:** FW: Huber Street width, Marion, Ohio

Good afternoon Mr. Bischoff,

The Ohio Rail Development Commission is currently working to upgrade several railroad grade crossings within the City of Marion and have some questions relating to Huber Street. Below is an email Amanda DeCesare with CSX Transportation had sent to your mayor, but we have not received anything back. Thus the reason for reaching out to you with this email. Would someone from the city be able to respond to the questions below concerning Huber Street??

Thanks,

**Greg Gronbach**

***Project Manager Railroad Grade Crossing Safety***



Mail Stop #3140  
1980 W. Broad St, Columbus, Ohio 43223  
614-275-1366 Office | 614-745-6760 Mobile  
[Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov)

**From:** Stout, Catherine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 6, 2019 3:35 PM  
**To:** Gronbach, Gregory <[Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Gregory.Gronbach@dot.ohio.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Huber Street width, Marion, Ohio

Amanda didn't copy you.

**From:** DeCesare, Amanda <[Amanda\\_DeCesare@csx.com](mailto:Amanda_DeCesare@csx.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 6, 2019 2:48 PM  
**To:** [jshoup@marionohio.org](mailto:jshoup@marionohio.org)  
**Cc:** Biesterveld, Ben (External) <[bbiesterveld@benesch.com](mailto:bbiesterveld@benesch.com)>; Henning, Nicole (External) <[Nicole\\_Henning@csx.com](mailto:Nicole_Henning@csx.com)>; Elliott, Scott (External) <[Scott\\_Elliott@csx.com](mailto:Scott_Elliott@csx.com)>; Stout, Catherine <[Catherine.Stout@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Catherine.Stout@dot.ohio.gov)>; Henry, Jill <[jill.henry@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:jill.henry@puco.ohio.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Huber Street width, Marion, Ohio

Mr. Shoup,  
Just following up on this. Our deadline for completing the projects is in April and we are going to have to request a deadline extension. However, I need some feedback from Marion first. Do you have any questions for me?  
Thank you,

## Amanda J. DeCesare

Project Manager – Public Projects

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**From:** DeCesare, Amanda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 5, 2019 3:20 PM  
**To:** 'jshoup@marionohio.org' <[jshoup@marionohio.org](mailto:jshoup@marionohio.org)>

**Cc:** Benjamin Biesterveld ([BBiesterveld@benesch.com](mailto:BBiesterveld@benesch.com)) <[BBiesterveld@benesch.com](mailto:BBiesterveld@benesch.com)>; Henning, Nicole (External) <[Nicole\\_Henning@csx.com](mailto:Nicole_Henning@csx.com)>; Elliott, Scott ([Scott\\_Elliott@csx.com](mailto:Scott_Elliott@csx.com)) <[Scott\\_Elliott@csx.com](mailto:Scott_Elliott@csx.com)>

**Subject:** Huber Street width, Marion, Ohio

Hello Mr. Shoup,

As you probably know, the Ohio Rail Development Commission and CSX are working on upgrading the at-grade crossing warning devices at several CSX crossings in Marion.

We have been working on a design, and have come up with the attached layout for our devices. As you can see, curb is required on the south side of the track and it will impact Huber Street.

I am looking for your feedback on the impact to Huber Street. If you approve of this design, please let me know. If you disagree, please provide a better solution.

Do you feel that these signals, in this configuration, will meet the needs of traffic flows in Marion?

Is there any opportunity to reduce Huber to a one-way street?

Thank you for your consideration.

**Amanda J. DeCesare**

Project Manager – Public Projects

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**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**4/3/2019 4:28:14 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 18-0292-RR-FED**

Summary: Response In the Matter of an Extension Request for Upgrades to the Active Warning Devices at Eight CSX Transportation, Inc. Crossings in Marion County, Ohio. electronically filed by Mrs. Jill A Henry on behalf of PUCO/Rail Division